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### FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

### FBIS Videotapes

FBIS monitoring of foreign television has been going on a number of years, both in terms of processing information from the audio and in distributing videotapes for viewing by the Intelligence Community. The system, almost from the beginning, has involved rapid information processing by FBIS overseas bureaus with reports sent by teletype, and the pouching of videotapes to Headquarters where OCR's Pictorial Services Branch makes the tapes available for screening for Community analysts. Field bureaus of FBIS wirefile to Headquarters 'VSL's'' (Video Selection Lists) on monitored programs, with the VSL's distributed to analysts by OCR. Some Intelligence Community groups, such as DIA and several other Department of Defense recipients, receive VSL's directly from FBIS bureaus, with videotapes distributed both by OCR and FBIS field bureaus where required.

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"Orders" for segments of the videotapes by Community components have been running at about 800 annually in recent years. The number of available tapes has been augmented in the past several years with the initiation of television monitoring by FBIS at the U.S. Embassy in Belgrade and the acquisition of North Korean television from Korean counterparts.

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available television videotapes is expected to increase dramatically. FBIS officers are meeting with OCR to determine if the present system is adequate to handle selection and distribution of interesting materials.

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#### Soviet Succession

FBIS has alerted its field collectors to the heavy reliance the Community will be placing on full, fast coverage of Soviet media in the period immediately following Brezhnev's death or relinquishment of power. At a planning session chaired by the Acting NIO/USSR, it was stressed that during the first few days of the post-Brezhnev era Soviet media are likely to be a major source of indicators concerning the nature, stability, and policy directions of the new leadership. When the time comes, FBIS plans to send a media analyst on TDY to its London Bureau to augment the capability for rapid reporting and analysis of Soviet radio and television broadcasts during the period of leadership change. Meanwhile, over the past several months FBIS has been taking steps to maximize the speed and comprehensiveness of processing of speeches and articles by Soviet leaders, which will provide additional support for Community analysts studying the maneuvering among top contenders in the USSR. At the same time FBIS' Russian-language

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capability at overseas bureaus is being augmented with the addition of two Russian monitors at the Austrian Bureau.	25X1
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